

E-255,372

S-341,016

AUG 14 1967

FOIAb3b

# Students Told Fear of CIA After Big Split

CPYRGHT

Compiled from Wire Dispatches

WASHINGTON—The president of the National Student Association (NSA) said Monday that in breaking its relationship with the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) earlier this year, NSA officers were fearful of the consequences.

W. Eugene Groves told some 1,500 delegates to the association's congress that during the break period, Richard G. Stearns, association vice president, "was awakened at 4 a.m. to be read out of future service in the U.S. government by a CIA agent over the phone."

## NO DETAILS

Another NSA leader, Jim Johnson, "was frightened that he would be knocked off on the street corner that week in Washington," Groves said. He did not amplify on this statement.

The period Groves referred to last February, when the 1.7 million - member NSA announced the break with the CIA. Ramparts magazine disclosed the 15-year secret alliance, during which the CIA provided about \$3.3 million for NSA projects over seas and recruited NSA staffers for intelligence work.

Groves said he had been told that Philip Sherburne, a former NSA president, "was threatened with fabrication of psychiatric records—records that would appropriately turn up at a future date to ruin his career or to open him to blackmail."

## FEBRUARY PERIOD.

"There were difficulties and fear" during the February period, Groves said, but "physical fear we parried."

Now, Groves said, "we are more solvent than ever recently, with little help from the CIA—achieved despite them, in fact."

Groves also confirmed the NSA received more than \$3.3 million from 1952 to February 1967 as "an intelligence and operations wing" for the CIA.

He said his organization frequently didn't even know where its overseas staff members were while they served as "CIA agents and informers."

## MOST OF BUDGET

Groves, in spelling out the full extent of his organization's involvement with the CIA, said that at one point the spy agency was providing 91 per cent of the NSA budget.

"It protected us from (Sen. Joseph) McCarthy, it helped some people get draft deferments, and it probably put in a good word to the Internal Revenue Service when NSA applied for tax-exempt status," Groves said.

"But the power lay (at CIA headquarters) in Langley. The first person to be dialed in time of trouble was the head of Covert Action No. 5," he added.

Groves said the principal CIA conduit was the Foundation for Youth and Student Affairs, which gave the NSA more than \$2.12 million during the period.

Groves said only one school, Colorado State College in Greeley, quit the NSA as a result of the disclosure of the CIA tie. Brandeis University in Waltham, Mass., suspended its membership for one year. Thirty schools have joined the NSA since the expose, he said.